(b) if so what are the reasons for the delay in sanctioning these loans?

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE): (a) and (b) Industrial Development Bank of India (IDBI have reported that the Government of Maharashtra has requested to grant assistance for setting up 11 cooperative spinning mills in Maharashtra. Out of the 11 co-operative projects, 4 projects are reportedly being considered under World Bank/NCDC Aid Scheme and as such institutional assistance will not be needed. Of the remaining 7 projects instiutions have already sanctioned assistance to 3 projects The remaining 4 proposals are not being considered for the present.

Effect of Political Turmoils in East European Countries on India's trade

1225. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the Minister of COMMERCE pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any effect of the political turmoils in the East European countries on India's trade with those countries; and

(b) if so, what steps Government have taken or propose to take to ward off the imbalance?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND TOURISM (SHRI ARUN KUMAR NEHRU): (a) and (b) India has close and friendly ties with te East European countries and there is a common desire on both sides to promote and diversity trade and to develop new forms of co-operation. There is no evidence to show that recent political developments in these countries have had an adverse impact on India's trade with them.

Malpractice Committeed by consumer co-operative Societies in Maharashtra in Selling Janta Cloth

1226. SHRI NARESH C. PUGLIA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Janata cloth, such as dhoti, sari etc. were to be made available to the low income group people in rural areas at cheaper rates through the cooperative societies in the country;

(b) whether Government are also aware that in Maharashtra some District consumers cooperative societies have misused this scheme and have sold out the Janata cloth outside Maharashtra;

(c) if so, what are the details in this regard; and

(d) what action Government propose to take against such societies to curb recurrence of this malpractice?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING NDUSTRIES (SHRI SHARAD YADAV): Yes, Sir. Government of India is implementing Janata Cloth Scheme in a number of States, including Maharashtra, with the twin objectives of providing sustained employment to the unemployed and under-employed handloom weavers an making available cloth at affordable prices to the poorer sections of society. The Janata cloth is distributed in these States, through outlets of the Public Distribution System. Consumer Co-operative Federations and outlets of approved distribution agencies and own outlets of janata implementing agencies.

(b) to (d) No report has come to the notice of Government of India, regarding the misuse of the Scheme and sale of janata cloth outside the State in Maharashtra by some district consumer cooperative societies and also sale or diversion of janata cloth. There had however, been an instance of sale of janata cloth by an implementing agency outside Maharashtra. The connected subsidy on the cloth so sold was not however released to the implementing agency. To avoid recurrence of such incidences, Government of Maharashtra have appointed Government Administrator